LETTERS

FROM THE MARQVESSE OF ARGYLE, the Earle of LANERICK, Lord WARRISTON, and others now at *Edenburgh*, to their friends at *London*.

Intercepted by Sir RICHARD WILLYS Governour of *Newarke*, and Printed faithfully by the Originals.

OXFORD,
Printed by HENRY HALL Printer to the UNIVERSITY. 1645.

THe Reader may take notice that these Letters are printed exactly according to the Authours Spelling, without the least alteration of VVord or Syllable: Most of them beare date at Edenburgh about the middle of March, and were superscribed to London, except that written by J. Meldrum in January to his friend in France, which therefore we place first; the rest follow according to their severall dates, in this Order. viz.

To the Earle of Lowdon from Mr Patrick Maule of His Majesties Bedchamber.

To Mr Hebbe a Merchant at London, from Mr Mowet conceived to be one of their Advocates of the Sessions.

To James Oswold from Ro. Kirkwood said to be one of the Writers to the Signet.

To the Scots Commissioners at London from Archibald Johnston Lord Warriston.

To the Earle of Lauderdale one of the Scots Commissioners at London, from the Earle of Lanerick brother to the Duke of Hammilton

To the Scots Commissioners at London from the Marquis of Argyle Earle of Cassils, Lanericke, Lord Balmerinoth, and the rest of the Commissioners at Edenburgh.

From Mistris Dorothy Spense (without a Superscription.)

To the Earle of Somerset at London from J. Elphinston the Lord Balmerinoths sonne.

From Master James Stuart a Merchant in Edenburgh to his Kinsman at London.

To John Campbell a Merchant in London from John Wood a Stationer in Edenburgh.

To the Earle of Lowdon from Master J. Meuar.

LETTERS FROM THE MARqueſſe of *Argyle*, the Earle of *Lanerick*, Lord *Wariſtone*, and others now at *Edenburgh*, to their friends at *London*, *&c.*

Sulſie the 26 of *January*. 1645.

Moſt loving freind,

Perceave in your laſt letter to me ye hav not reſaved any from my hand; indeed yee ſall not wonder thairat, nor imput any neglect of dewtie to me, for I have not forgotten you nor never ſall, but the evill tym I hav endured hes maed me almoſt forget my ſelfe and my Country both; for ſinc the *Iriſhes* cam amongs us (which was in *July*) we never hav had peac or quietnes but in danger of our lives and eſtates; as for my eſtate, I thanke God I have ſpent in this yeare more nor I can win in thrie yeir to cum, by quartering of troopers, rigging out of ſouldiers, horſe and fur, taxand loan, tents and twanties, and victuall to the army, with my own perſonall ſervice at all occaſiones to the publicke, hes put me meer in debt nor ever I can get paied. The occurments of our Kingdome ar many but not guid, ther cam in in our Weſt-Ills in July laſt about the number of tua thouſant Iriſhes, under the conduct of *Alexander Donald*, alias *Colmakkittach*, and within ſhort tim the Marques of *Montros* joined with them, being cum out of *Ingland* ſecretlie, and raiſed many in our *Hilands* and all *Atholl*, and cam towards *Sant Johnſtonn* about the number of 4000 men, being the beginning of *September*, whom ane Sunday the fift, *Strathern*, *Angus*, with *Perthſhire*, with 6000 met tham abowt *Sant Johnſtonn*, where for want of governament and commanders we wes put to flight, and the number of 800 killed and drowned in the water in the flying, and than entered

the towne and plundered it. From thence they cam throw *Angus*, and gat many a joint to tham as *Arlie*, *Kinord*, *Spiney*, with the Meister, & divers Barons: than to the Mearns, Marshall keipt *Dunnotter* his house: they crosed *Die* at the milnes of *Drum*, and cam to *Aberdene*, the shirif of *Aberdene* and *Bamff* being present at the tua mill crosse where *Elchoes* Regiment and the Townesmen, gaiff ane assault wpon the 13 of *September*, the wind being high and with tham, we was forced to retire to the losse of many of our men, the Towne of *Aberdene* losed sevin scor and ten and also many more, they staied three daies in the Towne. This is all I can shew you for the present.

The Laird of *Haltowne* is dead of ane fever upon the 6 of *Januar*.

To *William Gray* Preacher to Coll: *Dowglas* Regiment in *France*.

Your loving Father in the Lord Iesus.
J. Meldrum.

Edenburgh March 8. 1645.

My Lord,

IT hath pleased my Lady to conclude the businesse betwixt my Lady *Jane* your daughter, and my sonne, so it wants nothing now to the finishing thereof but your aprobatione and blissing to it, and I pray the Lord with all my soull to blesse them, and make their happinesse according to their affections; my opinion is, the privater that it is consummate it will be the better, wherein you may signify your pleasure and it will be obeyed, both the time and your absence forth of the Kingdome requiring privacy.

I thinke my occasions will force my comming to *London* this Summer, if there be any possibility of travailing either by sea or land: if you thinke at my being there if I procured liberty to goe and see the King, that I might say any thing to His Majesty that might be for the good of Himselfe and His Dominions,

ons, that you would be pleaſed to write thereof to the Marquis of *Argyle*, that I might ſpeake with him therein: for unleſſe there be ſome middles found to ſave the miſerable diſtractions of this Kingdome, we and our poſterity ſhall be but miſerable at the beſt: for unleſſe that God Almighty hath decreed the ruine of the King and His race, it is not to be doubted but He will prevaile in the end, though to the ruine of all His Kingdomes. I have many times ſpoken the Marqueſſe herein, for he gets much blame from His Majeſty of the courſes that this Kingdome takes, and I thinke gets not many thankes here for his paines, which is all I will ſay for the preſent, but that I ſhall ever remaine

For the Earle of *Lowdon.*

Your Lordſhips moſt humble ſervant,
PATRICKE MAULE.

Edenburgh March 12. 1645.

Loving Brother,

I Omitted Yeſternights packet becauſe I had this bearer *John Pringle, George Leſly*'s godſonne, before my hands. I remit likewiſe to his relation the eſtate of our preſent affaires, which are not as you could wiſh. Theſe godleſſe rebels ſince the routing of *Argyles* forces in *Lothaber*, did returne to *Murray*, and finding *Innerneſſe* fortified went not that way, but held them about *Ferres* and *Elgin*, and all the parts of that poore Country. And turning over *Spey* returned be *Ennys* and *Bamff*, and Yeſterday we heard they were at *Aberdene*, uſing all the expedition poſſible to be at *Angus* and farther South before we be in readineſſe. The Parliament before it roſe, (which was upon Saturday laſt) made all the haſt it could to provide for monies to our Army, which is making againſt theſe Rebels, for without preſent pay no ſouldier could be moved to advance. Colonell *Urrey* was ſent away hence upon Saturday laſt, to guard our troopes, we expect two Regiments preſently from *New-Caſtle*, and as many are ſent for from *Ireland*, but apparently

theſe will come late. The perfidious Lord *Gordon* went into that wicked Band in *Murray*, and ſince the Earle of *Seaforth*. The *Gordons* and *Graunts* are riſen and are with them. This is our preſent condition, which or it be long, muſt ſuffer ane change, or elſe we ſall be made very miſerable: the Lord aſſiſt us and grant us ane happy deliverance from ſuch ane baſe cruell enemy: There hath beene ane great Fray neare *Yorke* lately at the releiſe of *Pontfract* Caſtle, which was reported here to have beene ane totall overthrow of *Fairefax* Armies: this bearer and others from *New-Caſtle* will report the truth farre better nor I, who hath it ſcarcely at the third hand. Our Generall marcht from *New-Caſtle* (as we heare) towards *Yorkeſhire*, upon the report of that overthrow, with 3000 fut and the moſt part of his horſe, his ſonne the Lord *Balgonie* is not like to live, it is in effect ane Conſumption, proceeding, as is reported, from intemperancy. The Parliament is very ſlow in all their determinations. Lord be with you and grant us ane happy and peaceable meeting to his glory and our comfort. So I reſt

Your loving Brother
A. MOVBRAY.

For Maſter Heb *Merchant, &c.*

Edenburgh this 12 of *March*. 1645.

James Oſwald,

And loving freind, my love remembret. I wonder that I never hare from you ſince your departing from *London* to the Country concerning your Commiſſion you left me about *Charles Dickeſon*. For newes hear yeſter night certain word cam of *Montroſſe* his arrivall at *Aberdein*, accompanied with the Earle of *Seaffort* being about 7000 men in all, not compting thoſſ he hes left behind him at *Innerneſſe*, our Parliament is riſen and nothing expected heir bot miſerie. Gen. *Leſlie* is to march preſently ſouthward with his armie, onlie leaving a garriſon at *Newcaſtle*. It is thought that *Montroſ* will be this night

night at *Dundie*, our Parliament hes ordered ane armie of 10000 men, bot they ar so slow in leviing, that God hes left us and som heavie judgement to light on us. Maſter *William Rutherfoord* and *Crawfoord* and all your freinds remember them to you. I reſt

Your affectionate,
Ro. Kirkwood.

For *Iames Oſwald, &c.*

Edenburgh March 13.

Right Honourable,

I Can adde little to what I did write by ſea with our Miniſters, and thereafter with the Poſt, there is a publicke Letter from the Committee about the ſhips, and another for favour or triall at *New-Caſtle* to the Delinquents that are ſent up; the Generall of Artillery hes preſt it very hard, ye will make the beſt uſe of it as may not wrong this Kingdome in thair reputation and affection amongſt the weall affected. I have gotten the anſwer to the Parliaments Letters, as alſo to Sir *William Ermin*'s papers, drawne up very faire, which we ſhall, God willing, bring with us on Tueſday next. My Lord *Craford* and the reſt of the Committee for the North goeth to *Bailie* this day and to morrow; the enemy we beleive be with *Seaforth* his priſoner with his will now at *Aberdene*: I am my ſelfe this day under phyſicke and ſo hes not attended the Committee. If *Crafurd* and *Middletoun* continue not in imployment thair, I wiſh them at home with our Armies; *Monroe* will be diſpatched hither to aſſiſt *Garthland* and *Cowdon*, whom we have ſent to *Ireland*. Thus in haſt reſting

For the Commiſſioners of the Kirk and Kingdome of *Scotland*.

Your Lordſhips reall ſervant
ARCH: JOHNSTON.

I feare M, *Baitzee*, and M. *Gileſpie*, with Maiſtreſſe *Murray*, be driven over to *Campheire* in the water, that went from this Yeſterday morning.

My

My Deare Lord,

Edenburgh March 13. 1645.

IT hath now pleased God to put an happy end to this Session of Parliament, after a solid course was taken, for maintaining our forces at home against our as yet prevailing Enemies, & recalling such from *England* & *Ireland* as our Danger & Necessity forced us to; which I hope will no waies be misunderstood where you are, seeing the onely way to make us usefull to our freinds, and considerable every where abroad, is to preserve our selves entire at home. The bad successe of the Treaty occasions a great confidence here in Malignants, of His Majesties powers and meanes of persuing actively the warre this ensuing summer; and the new alterations in the Command of the Parliaments armies, give some grounds to honest men, (who lookes at a distance upon their proceedings) not onely to feare a great losse of time by these changes, and hazard of disobedience to their commands, but likewise more desperate and dangerous effects from an appearance of divisions in their Counsels. It is not long since you had the like feares of that amongst us here; I confesse I cannot say there wants discontented persons amongst us, and those even of the honestest, but I am confident it can never heighten so as to occasion disaffection in any, to the great worke we are all sworne to; for whatsoever particular mistakes there may be amongst persons, yet praised be God, there hath beene unanimity in our Counsels, which (whatsoever your Lordship may heare to the contrary) none shall more constantly endeavour to continue and preserve then my selfe, for as I shall answer to God I have no private or particular ends, nor doe I otherwise consider or looke upon my selfe, but as I may be usefull to the publicke, and I hope all amongst us have the same thoughts, if not these sifting times will soone seperate the Corne from the Chaffe. I pray the Lord blesse you in your imployment, and send us a happy meeting when he thinkes fit.

For the Earle of Lauderdale.

Your Lordships faithfull and obliged servant

LANERICK.

My

My Lord, *Postscript.*

I am desired to recommend to you the desires of a Brother in Law of my wifes, one Sir *Thomas Boyer*, I hope your Lordship will not looke the lesse favourable upon him that he hath this interest in your servant.

Edenburgh 13 *March* 1645.

Right Honourable,

Wee have several tymes heirtofore Represented to your Lordships the prejudices have ensued to this Kingdome throw the Parliament of *Englands* not sending of ships to attend our coasts as they are bound be Treatee. And now finding that there is not one ship on our coast toward *Ireland* (Captaine *Kerse* being come in for fresh provision) And being certainelie informed of great preparations of men and ammunition to come out of *Ireland* for supplee of the Rebells who now infest this Kingdome, and whose coming heere had beene interrupted, if the Parliament had performed what they are obleidged to be the Treattie. We do seriouslie Recomend to your Lo: care To deale effectuallie with the Parliament of England that besides Captaine *Kerse* Two other ships of 20 peece of Ordinance a peece with two pinnaces be furthwith sent to attend on our West coast toward Ireland and our Isles. And that they be provided with six months provision. And some setled course tane be exchange or otherwayes, how they may be furnished of new within this Kingdome and not forced as formerly they have done for want of provision to leave the service. And that they be ordered to obey all such direction as sall be given to thame be the Marques of *Argyle*, Generall Major *Monro*, or any other having power from the Committee of Estats for that effect. Your Lordship sall also desire, that the Excyse of Merchandise that comes to *Newcastle* be not anticipat an *London* But that the same may be payed at *Newcastle* and employed for the use of the Armie, and the like for such merchandise as

ſall come to *Sunderlaind* and *Hartlepoole*, Weereſt

Your Lorſhips aſſured freinds

Argyle *Caſsillis* *Tullibardine*
Yeſter *Lannericke* *Balmerinoth*
Yougar *Balcarres* *Braighall*
Patrick Leſlie *Sir William Dicks.*

For the Commiſſioners of Scotland *at* London, *&c*

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13 of March 1645.

Good freind having this ſure bearer I could not omit but let you know how it is with me, I am bleſſed be God in health, and would be glad to heare the like of you, and hope ere long to heare of your arrivall here with the reſt. You deſire to heare newes, truly we can promiſe our ſelves nothing but miſerie, for the enemy growes ſtronger, and our hands weaker, for God hath taken all courage from us; and the miniſters of God foreſees great deſolation, and ſtill threatens the people, but ſtill they continue a ſtuped unſencible people, and doe not ſee Gods hand in it. I thinke we muſt drinke of that cup which England hath begunne to us, and I feare we here muſt drinke the dreggs. My Lord Argyle *is going out againe with new forces for he was defeated by the helpe of ſome of his owne men. So now I ceaſe to write but never from being*

Your faithfull freind
Dorothy Spenſe

Edenburgh March 13. 1645.

Loving Cuſſing,

YOur laſt by the ordinar poſt I anſwrit by the ſamen, 10 Current; wherein I ſent you the liſt of the north committie, I haif nothing new to inlarge; onely *Montroſe* came to *Aberdene* with his rebels on Saturday the 8 of this, *Bailie Ieſſrey* came yeſternicht who ſhewes that *Nathaniell Gordun* with a partie of horſe fell on the baggage of *Lothians* regiment and hes taken it with Leiutenant Colonell *Murray* priſoner. The Earll of

Craſurd

* *Craford* went over water this day for *Pearth* where *Baillie* staies; Its like God hes a great contraverſie with this Land, the judgement ſo growen by reaſon meanes ar not activelie followed, and yit no man will ſay its his default, nether haif we had ſucceſſe ſince my Lard Chancelor went away, though I cannot attribute it to that onlie, yit I am confident matters would go a great deale better of his preſentts, Generall Major *Hurrie* is gone the north and commands nixt to *Baillie*, thair is ſmall appearance *Baillies* ſtiring, ſo tis like *Montroſſ* ſall once eſſay all our ſitting. My humble ſervice to my Lord Chancellour, Lady *Warriſton*, &c.

* *A new Earle of* Craford *of their owne making, the true Earle being for his loyalty priſoner in* Edenburgh.

Your Cuſſing to power *I. Stewart.*

From the *Abbay* the 14 of *March.* 1645.

I Wrett to you befor that all your trunkes wes broken up, for ane blacke hatt of my Lord *Maitland's*, and ſhortlie they have taken your hat caiſſe for my Lord *Maitland's* uſe; I have no fewer newes to wrytt to you but that the bearer can aquent yow; times lookes ſtrangelye in *Scotland*, the enemy is very ſtrong and daylie gatheres ſtrength, by numberes that runes into him both greatt men and commones. And for anie thing that I can ſie, *Scotland* ſhall drinke as deip in the cupp of the Lords wraith as either *England* or *Irland*. It hes pleaſed the Lord to ſtryke *Scotland* with twa rodes, and threatenes ſor with the thride, and yet there non that laies to heart; never more groſſe ſining againſt God in *Scotland* nor at this ſame time. Now the Lord be with you.

Your humble ſervant till death.

For *John Campbell &c.* John Wood.

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14 March. 1645.

My Lord,

I Have ſo longe bein ſilent that any good newis from this cuntry I can ſhew your Lordſhip are not worthy of your Lordſhips paines, the parliament heere did cloſe on Saturday 8 of this Month having farfaulte the Erles of *Montroſ*, *Nithiſdaill*,

Airlie, Lord *Ahoyne*, *Harriſe*, and *Alexander Mackdonald* who is appoynted Generall Major of his Majeſties forces nnder the Marquis of *Montroſe*, who now although a Marquis by His Majeſties patent under his owne raſhee not having paſſed the grit Seall is declared a traitor by the State, the Erles of *Seafort* & the Lord *Gordon* are latelie joyned to him, he hes bein at *Elgin* in *Murray* and hes raſed divers gentlemens houſis, the Lard of *Brodies* houſe he hes razed to the ground, and two other gentlemens houſis. I have named this gentleman the rather becauſe of his faythfull and approved ſervice to his cuntry, the Lord *Gordon* hes likewiſe waſted all the Viſcount of *Freindrat* and the Lord *Fraſers* boundis, all out of deadlie fead thet hes bein tuixt the *Gordonis* and the Lord *Forboſe* and *Fraſer* who are the two pryme men in theſe boundis. This is all I can ſay at this tyme for newis, wiſhing your Lordſhip all health and happineſſe, I reſt

For my much honoured Lord and Uncle the Earle of *Sommerſet* at *London*.

Your Lordſhips humble Servant *J. Elphinſton.*

Newcaſtle 15 *March* 1645.

Moſt honoured and my moſt noble Lord,

I ſent a letter by this poaſt on Wedneſday laſt, I have heard of your Lordſhip in print ſince at the Common counſell at *London*, I know not how, but the Lord for a time hath departed frō us. In my laſt I ſpoke of your Lordſhips regiment which is claimed by *Lumſden* as his owne that you would ſignifie your minde to my Lord Generall his excellence. My poore opinion is that in theſe times your Lordſhip ought to be ſo farre from quitting of your regiment, that one of your Lordſhips Truſt had rather need of anc army which may be cleare before you have the Kingdome in the poſture wherein your Lordſhip left it, I ſay no more, but referre it to the bearer, The quicke diſpatch with this bearer I hope will ſignifie your Lordſhips ſenſe of the troubles at home, and the remembrance of

For the Earle of LOVVDON

Your Lordſhips moſt affectionate Miniſter *I. Menar.*

FINIS.

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